21 SCHWEIKER

ROLL ~~20~~ Starts (Called 21 on cassette) ~~28~~.
Slate 271/1 called
271/2 W/T....telex machine-sound...W/T...
272/1 W/T ... as above..
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BBC Panorama 3/6/78

INT: Sir can you tell me what your Select committee found out about the F--about the performance of the FBI and the CIA? investigating the asassination of Pres. Kennedy.

MAN: Well one of the most startling things we found out..(Cut off)

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INT: Senator what would you say was the most important thing that your Select committee found out about the performance of the CIA and the FBI investigating the asassination of President Kennedy?

SENATOR: The most important thing was that the Intelligence agencies did all the wrong things if they really were looking for conspiracy or to find out who killed John Kennedy. They took their ~~two biggest~~ bodies of experts, the special affairs staff, the CIA, that were all Cuban specialists, they took the nationalities intelligence section of the FBI and they deliberately bypassed them in the investigation didn't use their informers or assets or their agents, as if Cuba didn't exist or the connection didn't exist. And in addition J.Edgar Hoover within 12 hours after setting up an alert to all Bureau Chiefs to pursue every lead, every responsible course of action called the whole search off. I can't but believe that he didn't get an order from on high 12 hours later to cease and desist, we don't reall want to know what happened.

INT: You're saying that the intelligence agencies not only didn't ahm, do their best in terms of investigating the asassination of

INT: of President Kennedy, are you suggesting that the Intelligence agencies simply obstructed the Warren commission in the course of its duties?

SENATOR: I frankly believe that it goes higher than the Intelligence Agencies. I think the responsibility is beyond that, I think the memo from Moyer and Katskenbach clearly show the White House was calling the shot and I think the White House instructed the Intelligence Agenci not to do their best. For examp the Head of the CIA investigatio was never told by Helmes that we were trying to asassinate Castro. The head of the CIA investigation team told our committee that if he had known that fact, his whole investigation would have taken on a different route, would have gone a differe way and might well have uncovere a lot of things that they missed Because they were deliberately disinformed by Mr Helmes and I happen to think that that came from on high.

INT: But what interest would the White House have in not trying to find out the truth in what you in your report called the most important question that faced America in 1963, the asassination of Pres. Kennedy?

SENATOR: Well number one I think everybod wanted to cover up the fact they had made a deal with the Mafia, that the CIA and our intelligence agencies were dealing with the Mafia. Number two I think they wanted to cover up the fact that we were using the Mafia to try to asassinate a chief of state, Fidel Castro. No. 3, I suspect there were some other er--intelligence things going on we didn't want to admit and own up to and I think these were reasons part of the reasons for the cover up, but they are two big ones right there.

INT: But why is the plot to asassinate Castro relevant to the asassination of President Kennedy?

SENATOR: Well I think its very clear that one of the agencies that we were using was in fact a double agent, so all the time we were trying to kill Castro, well he in fact knew it, and shadowed the effort and if you could raise at least a suggestion that one thing should be investigated was whether he struck back. I don't know that he struck back, but to not have investigated that is to not have investigated the murder of President Kennedy.

INT: Why 13 or 14 yrs after the asassination of Pres. Kennedy was your committee looking into the performance of the Intelligence Agencies at the time of the asassination?

SENATOR: Mainly because of my efforts--but my efforts were directed to the rather startling fact to me on first learning it that we were dealing with the Mafia that we were trying to asassinate heads of state and I think those two single facts propelled me to get into the sitatuion in such a way as to find out what really was at the bottom of it.

INT: But you were saying before about the cover up that you thought came from the White House. Was there any specific interest, apart from covering up the murky doings of the intelligence agencies in the White House to try to convince the American peoples that it was just one lone asassin who was deranged acting by himself?

SENATOR: Well there are--I can give you a couple of theories that have some substance: one is that at one point after the Cuban Missile crisis we issued an order to raid all the anti-Castro cuban

SENATOR: training campsm,camps that we had set up that we had organisec that we were paying the personne for. I can imagine personally what the reaction among the Cuba community would be to an order from the President to destroy al their operations and break their faith. And the interesting thir is here was Oswald, who had two associations, one is with Soviet Odio, with a group of anti-Castr cubans so he was clearly with them and associating with them, who had some motivation. And at the same time he was handing out leaflets for the Fair Play for Cuba committee with the other side of the fence, so two groups that had the most motivation to asassinate the President he was dealing with and decided not to investigate either avenue We didn't want to be embarrassed by the Cuban connection.

INT: Was there no investigation at all of Oswald's connections with the anti-castro factions?

SENATOR: Very little, in fact the irony of it is that when the CIA investigation asked for a name trace on one of the people that we have been dealing with as a possible agent to asassinate Castro, it was sent to the Spæial Affairs staff that we had by-passed. The Special Affairs Staff, and this came out before a committee, deliberately lied to the Chief investigator of the CIA and pretended we had no dealings with this agent, and covered up the fact that we were dealing with him as one of our own. So the group that was supposed to provide the expertise and help the Chief Investigator, not only by--was bypassed, but deliberately lied to the chief investigator about what--the most fundamental facts of all.

INT: Are you suggesting that the cover

INT: up which began 13 or 14 yrs ago is in any way still going on?

SENATOR: Oh there is no question of it. Here is a photograph, during our hearings I specifically asked about this mystery man who went in and out of the Cuban and Mexican embassy and was identifi by our intelligence people as Lee Harvey Oswald. Of course wh h is wire photo, or picture, was taken they found out it was him. This was left off as an excuse of our operator of taking his pictures. Unbeknowns to me and deliberately denied to me during the hearings of my sub-committee was another set of photographs XXXXX of the same man in two separate changes of clothing meaning that the man either changed his clothes three times in one day, if it was a one day operation at the embassy, or in fact went to the Embassy on thre separate ocassions. In either event there was no excuse for a one day slip up, we had three chances to find out who this guy was, we put Lee Harvey Oswald's name on him, we say we now don't know who he is, and we deliberat withheld from the Warren Commiss ion, and my committee, two other photographs of this man in two separate changes of clothing. The cover up is going on.

INT: On whose instructions? Do you think those photographs could have been withheld now from your committee?

SENATOR: Well it has to be somebody very high up in government who doesn' want it to come out, I don't know who held it up, but all I can say is I'm sure it was at the highest level, because I think this whole thing has been at the highest level. I don't think it was the lower or middle eschelon they weren't even told what was going on.

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INT: But what possible reason could they have at the White House for covering up the real reason why President Kennedy was asass inated?

SENATOR: I think there are a number of good reasons, one was the fear expressed by some people that if the Fidel Castro connection had anything to do with it it could well lead to a war betwee ourselves and Russia, that's on possible motivation. Another i that the CIA would have been devestated back in those days t have had any tie with a MAFIA under any circumstances whatsoe It would have meant that the de ruption and gutting of their Agency.

INT: Have any tie with the mafia revealed do you mean?

SENATOR: In anyway revealed, because thi has only come out thru our committee's hearings of a year or two ago, and we had no know-ledge of it before. Thirdly of course is the concept that any American President or any agent of an American president would in any way attempt to asassinat foreign leaders, this would be devastating to the image.

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BBC Panorama 3/6/78 Acknowledged

MAN: relationship for someone who's assuming a false identity. I think in addition his role is such that by playing with both the Fair Play for Cuba committee on the one hand and then teaming up with Anti-~~XXXX~~ Castro Cubans on the other, he was playing out another intelligence role. Only an intelligence person who's tried to be an informer or a double agent would really like fit in that role, that Oswald fit. And of course to this day his mother swears in fact he was

INT: That he was what..?

~~XXXX~~ MAN: That he was an agent of one of the agencies.

INT: What do you believe? that Oswald was?

MAN: I personally believe that he had a special relationship with one of the agencies, which one I'm not certain but all the fingerprints that I found during my 18 months on the Select committee on intelligence point to Oswald as being a product of an interacting with the intelligence community. Whether he acted as a double agent, or single agent or whether he double-crossed some people is the big question, and who would be embarrassed by that double-cross or that double agent that wasn't figured quite right, but er--but us.

INT: But isn't there perhaps a simpler explanation just that he was a lone nutter acting by himself?

MAN: Well if he was I can't believe that the Russians would have let an Ameri--a daughter or a neice of a Colonel in the Soviet Secret police go out of America with him, I can't believe they would have assigned that role to a person in that capacity. I don't believe if he was in that

MAN: capacity that we would have utilised him in the way that we did in terms of our contacts on our side of the fence with him.

INT: Was it strange at all that when he came back from Russia that the FBI seemed to take so little notice of him? I mean afterall even at that stage if you came back as a tourist from Yugoslavia you were debriefed?

MAN: It was extremely strange and the procedures used here were also unorthodox, because again a Russian born wife coming out here with the release of some power in government should have been a signal to our intelligence agency that this was a special case. Now if we thought he was one of us and working with us, we would have done just what we did, which was we ignored that signal. On the other hand if he wasn't of ours then we should'n have ignored the signal and done something about it, which we did not do.

INT: Is there evidence that the CIA and the FBI collaborated in order to misldead or not even inform the Warren commission about what was going on?

MAN: Well again I think there is clear evidence of that, I happen to believe it came from higher authority but the clear evidence was of Mr Engleton briefing the FBI on two answers that they were going to give the Warren Commission, one was that there was no conspiracy, and the other was that Lee Harvey Oswald was not an agent of the FBI or the CI It's interesting that in giving that answer to the FBI is like somebody was prodding people as to what the party line was and exactly who Lee Harvey Oswald was in terms of the government's

MAN: prefabrication of him. So I thi that's proof positive, but again I believe it had to come up-- higher.

INT: I wonder if I could just ask you if you could just tell me about ahm, Angleton, but tell me in a narrative form who he was and what he did?

MAN: (Interrupted) Well he was one of a most..

INT: (Sorry, start it by saying..)

MAN: James Angleton was one of the most trusted and respected Intelligence operatives in our country and he was well known for his association and knowledg of the Soviet Union and their activities. He later was remove because of a policy difference, but that had nothing to do with the time and the place of the role that he played during the Warren Commission investigation.

INT: Can you tell me what James Angleton actually did?

MAN: (Interrupted) Well they had different jobs..

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INT: Is there evidence that the CIA and the FBI collaborated to deny evidence to the Warren Commission?

MAN: Yes there is, because James Angleton the head of counter-intelligence for the CIA er-- showed in a memo that he talked and conversed with the FBI about two key questions, and he gave them answers ahead of time that they were giving the Warren commission so that they would tell the same story. And the answers were was there conspiracy, Angleton said our answ is going to be no, and was Lee Harvey Oswald an agent of any intelligence agency or bureau and again Angleton said our answer's going to be no. A ver

MAN: clear signal to me that there was collaboration, again I think it came from higher up.

INT: Are you suggesting that Angleton really rehearsed anyone who migh be questioned by the Warren Commission as to what their answer should be?

MAN: I think that's the tip of the iceberg, there is specific proof that that in fact occurred and it raises the serious question of how many other times that occurred and I ~~XXXXXX~~ suspect it was a great deal.

INT: Was there evidence that Hoover himself tried to do the same thing?

MAN: Oh I think there was any number of efforts on Hoover's part ~~to~~ he wouldn't let the Warren Commission have its own field investigators, which was a very fundamental fact. He wanted to use FBI men for example. He wouldn't--didn't want a Warren Commission to be constructed at all, and he opposed it very strenuously. He tried to thwart it in many respects by the way the evidence was handled and by the monopoly that he put on it. So just about everywhereyou look he tried to thwart the Warren Commission, ~~XXX~~ investigation.

INT: What was there in Hoover's interest to try to thwart the Warren Comm's investigation?

MAN: Well, of course one was rivalry and jealousy and the fact ~~XXXX~~ of whether they would paint the FBI in any bad light, I am sure that's one. On the other hand, if as I believe there was an order from on high to have the Warren Commission a direct finding of a certain nature, he could well have been implementin that policy, and I suspect that

MAN: may well have been part of it.
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Shot 280/1
INT: Senator in the light of what we now know, that we didn't kow then, what do you think about the Warren Commission's findings?

SENATOR : I think the WarrenCommission has in fact collapsed like a house of cards. I believe that the Warren commission set up at the time to feed pablam to the American people for reasons not yet known, and that one of the biggest coverups in the history of our country occurred at that time.

INT: President Johnson told an aide when all the activities of the CIA are flushed out, the whole story of the Kennedy asassination will be known. What do you think he meant?

SENATOR; Well I think he meant there that there was a lot of subterfuge and sculduggery, and double-dealing. I don't know that I place it soldy on that particular Agency, I happen to think it reached higher in the government, in the White House itself. But I think he knew that the Warren Commission was false, and I think that's what he was saying.

INT: But many people now say look at all these documents, 40,000 documents, 40,000 pages released by thw FBI now and another 40,000 pages on their way, surely this shows that there isn't a cover up because you can see it in the FBI documents, how thorough the FBI was at investigating everything.

SENATOR: Well they were thorough based on the knowledge that they had, just as the CIA Chief Investigator was denied that the most essential element of all that we were out to kill Fidel Castro so was the head FBI investigators denied the same information, so you can

SENATOR: have a very thorough investigation but if you denied the mos relevant, startling, exciting facts at the time er--the investigation meansnothing.

INT: If the theory which the Warren Commission supported of Oswald acting alone, a deranged person acting alone were true, shouldn' all the documents, all the documents relating to Oswald have been released by now?

SENATOR:= I think there's absolutely no reason for not realeasing these documents. I am one of the few people because of my committee assignment and security clearanc is privileged to go in the archives and inspect them. And 98%of the material that I saw has absolutely no reason to be locked up and its a mystery to me why it hasn't been released sooner.

INT: Well why is it say an Oswald CIA file only some like 60 out of a thousand documents have been released?

SENATOR: I think they're obviously hiding some relationship with the Intelligence community, and its a little bit like the Jack Ruby case. J.Edgar Hoover denied that he was an informerfor the F Yet under the Freedom of Information Act release we found that he had 8 contacts with the FBI. Now that was as plain to say tha a contact 8 times wasn't an informer, yet the pros in the game said if you talked to a person twice that's an informer, so we know that Hoover lied abou Ruby being an informer for the FBI and I suspect exactly the same thing happened on Oswald.

INT: From what you've seen from your priviledged position,k documents which have not been released, do you get a firmer impression both that there was ae cover up

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INT: From what you've seen from your priviledged position,k documents which have not been released, do you get a firmer impression both that there was ae cover up

INT: at the White House and even that there was a conspiracy to kill President Kennedy?

SENATOR: Well I certainly get the very strong conviction that there was a cover up at the White House level, absolutely. The conspira cy park is harder to prove, be-cause I think all the things tha had anything to do with the possible conspiracy were never put in the files in the first place. I think they were given the self-destruct treatment and weren't investigated and that's why we didn't have the Cuban sections of the FBI and the CIA do the work.

INT: But do you thinkthat if all the documents that you've seen were made available, many more people would have more doubts about the conventional findings of the Warren commission?

SENATOR: Absolutely, I also think we'd have many more ways to go in getting at the truth and it'd make it a lot easier to ascertai and I think that's exactly why the documents are--not been released over this time frame.

INT: What's your view now of the truth?

SENATOR: My view is er--basically there was a gigantic coverup out of the White House; my view is that there was in fact a relationship between the Cuban connection and the asassination and my view is that more than one person were involved.

INT: Have you any idea of the identity or the affiliation of the more than one person?

SENATOR: Yes I do but I have to say in all frankness that they are some of the best leads our sub-committ has are now before the House committee and I feel to protect

SENATOR: the sanctity of their investigation and as well as my committe requirements, I honestly can't discuss them. EMX

INT: But when the congrational committee, the House committee reports will we get clearer evidence do you think of different people other than Lee Harvey Oswald being involved in the asassination?

SENATOR: I think you will get a different picture, how conclusive it will be will depend on their diligenc and success with the leads that we've passed on to them, but we've passed on some very hot leads ~~and~~ that were timely and are still being pursued.

INT: Can we learn anything from the titles of those documents that haven't been released, from the titles even we don't know what is in the documents, can we learn anything about the natur of those documents just from the titles?

SENATOR: I think the--yes, you can, and I think a lot of it relates to Lee Harvey Oswald's dealings with the Intelligence Community, I think that's basically what they're trying to protect.

INT: Do you nw believe that Lee Harve Oswald was an Intelligence Agent

SENATOR: I believe he was working for somebody in the Intelligence gam and either playing a single or double agent game, who, I don't know until we get all the documents out, and all the material declassified.

INT: But Richard Hounds the deputy CIA Director swore on oath to the Warren Commission that there is no material in the CIA record that there was any contact had or even contemplated with Oswald

SENATOR: Well of course Mr Hounds has been taken to task for swearing to all kinds of things before, and that's exactly what he was accused of with another Committee of the Congress, of not telling the truth

INT: Thank you v.much Senator.

CUT.

END OF INTERVIEW.

END OF ROLL 22.

20.1.78
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